

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA
AUGUSTA DIVISION

United States of America,)	
)	
Plaintiff,)	
)	
vs.)	Case No. 1:24CR68
)	
Dantavion Jones,)	
)	
Defendant.)	
_____)	

INITIAL APPEARANCE, ARRAIGNMENT, AND PLEA TO AN INFORMATION
BEFORE THE HONORABLE DUDLEY H. BOWEN, JR.
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT JUDGE
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2024; 3:45 P.M.

FOR THE PLAINTIFF:

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FOR THE DEFENDANT:

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INDEX

WITNESS	DIRECT	CROSS	REDIRECT	RECROSS
Farrah Rajabi,				
By Mrs. Scanlon	15			
By Mr. Shaefer		19		

EXHIBITS

NO.	IDENTIFICATION	EVD.
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(None offered)

1 (Call to Order at 3:45 p.m.)

2 THE CLERK: Case No. 1:24CR68, the United States of
3 America v Dantavion Jones, is called for initial appearance,
4 arraignment, and plea to a felony information. Representing
5 the government, Kelsey Scanlon. Representing the defendant,
6 Mark Shaefer.

7 THE COURT: You are Dantavion Jones. Is that correct?

8 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

9 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Jones, do try to speak up
10 for me. You can pull that microphone maybe a little closer. I
11 am old and deaf so I want to be able to hear everything you
12 say. Mr. Jones, in order to make sure that I am getting the
13 most reliable information under the circumstances, I am going
14 to place you under oath.

15 (Dantavion Jones is duly sworn.)

16 THE COURT: You may take your hand down. How old are
17 you, Mr. Jones?

18 THE DEFENDANT: Thirty -- I was born in '91. I always
19 get it wrong. 33.

20 THE COURT: Thirty-three. How far did you go in
21 school?

22 THE DEFENDANT: Completed high school.

23 THE COURT: I think this may help. All right. So you
24 got a high school diploma?

25 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

1 THE COURT: And what high school was that from?

2 THE DEFENDANT: Burke County High School in
3 Waynesboro, Georgia.

4 THE COURT: All right. Now you're currently working
5 with Quality Plus Services. Is that right?

6 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

7 THE COURT: What do you do with Quality Plus?

8 THE DEFENDANT: I'm an electrician.

9 THE COURT: I see. And how far along are you in the
10 process of getting certified or union membership?

11 THE DEFENDANT: I was waiting for this to transpire
12 and then I was planning on starting -- getting ready to go to
13 trade school. I have already spoken with the recruiter for the
14 trade school and it's just whenever I pay the fine, I pay the
15 entrance fee. I can start immediately and that's a 125-dollar
16 course.

17 THE COURT: Have you done much actual welding? I'm
18 sorry. Electrical work.

19 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

20 THE COURT: And at one time you worked for John Deere.
21 Is that right?

22 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

23 THE COURT: And that was between March of '24 and
24 August of '24. Is that right?

25 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

1 THE COURT: When were you employed by the Sheriff's
2 Department?

3 THE DEFENDANT: From February of '17 until February of
4 '24.

5 THE COURT: Have you had any other jobs that I have
6 not mentioned here?

7 THE DEFENDANT: Before the Sheriff's Office I worked
8 with the Department of Corrections for two years. So from 2015
9 to February 2017 I was at the Department of Corrections.
10 Before that I was a forklift operator. I did hospital
11 security, auto parts delivery driver, and a machine operator.

12 THE COURT: During the past 24 hours have you had any
13 drugs, medicines, pills or alcohol of any kind?

14 THE DEFENDANT: No, sir.

15 THE COURT: Now, Mr. Shaefer, have you in your
16 interviews or conferences discovered any reason to doubt this
17 man's competence?

18 MR. SHAEFER: No, sir, Your Honor.

19 THE COURT: I have no reason to doubt the competence
20 of Dantavion Jones. He is alert. He is attentive to the
21 proceedings. He is lucid in every respect that I can observe
22 and responsive to my questions. Accordingly, I find him to be
23 competent to enter a plea if that's what he wants to do. He
24 may be a little nervous, but that's quite common under the
25 circumstances.

1 Mr. Jones, have you had enough time to discuss this
2 case and prepare for it with your lawyer?

3 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

4 THE COURT: Are you entirely satisfied with your
5 lawyer's preparation and his handling of your case?

6 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

7 THE COURT: Mrs. Akins, do I have the Waiver of
8 Indictment here?

9 THE CLERK: I have it here, sir.

10 THE COURT: Mr. Jones, this case will proceed by way
11 of what we call an "information". Most cases in the federal
12 court originate under an indictment. Have you heard all about
13 this from your lawyer?

14 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

15 THE COURT: Well, I'll make it brief then. The
16 Constitution provides that if you're charged with a serious
17 crime you have the right to have the matter considered by a
18 grand jury and a grand jury's consideration is conceived,
19 generally, as a citizen's protection so that you cannot be
20 accused of a serious crime as a result of arbitrary or
21 capricious action by a prosecutor. I want you to understand
22 that you have the right to have this matter considered by the
23 grand jury.

24 You also have the right if you want to waive
25 consideration by the grand jury and to have the matter proceed

1 by an accusation or what we call an "information" filed by the
2 United States Attorney. Do you understand all of that?

3 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

4 THE COURT: Now have you decided whether or not you
5 wish to waive this right to have the matter considered by the
6 grand jury?

7 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

8 THE COURT: And what do you want to do?

9 THE DEFENDANT: I am going to have it waived.

10 THE COURT: So you're consenting for the matter to
11 proceed by way of the United States Attorney's accusation. Is
12 that correct?

13 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

14 THE COURT: All right. Well, I'll approve the waiver
15 and let's get some signatures on that, Mrs. Akins.

16 THE CLERK: The Waiver of Indictment has been signed.

17 THE COURT: Thank you. Let it be filed. Okay.

18 Mr. Jones, I have before me the Information which is
19 pending now in your case. It is filed and by that waiver it's,
20 so to speak, activated, and I am going to summarize it.
21 Basically, the United States Attorney has charged that at all
22 times relevant to this Information you were a sworn law
23 enforcement agent or officer employed as a deputy in the
24 Richmond County Sheriff's Office and there was -- well, we'll
25 get to it.

1 You want to give me a name, Mrs. Scanlon -- victim
2 one?

3 MRS. SCANLON: Naytrone Adams.

4 THE COURT: All right. Adams.

5 MRS. SCANLON: A-D-A-M-S.

6 THE COURT: Okay. Adams was an inmate at the Richmond
7 County Jail. The Information charges that you, Dantavion
8 Jones, while acting as a deputy under color of law did
9 willfully deprive Adams of a right secured and protected to him
10 by the Constitution and laws of the United States to be a
11 pretrial detainee free from the use of unreasonable force by a
12 law enforcement officer. Specifically, the allegation and
13 accusation is that you failed to intervene and attempt to
14 intervene despite having the opportunity and ability to do so
15 when another officer punched or struck Mr. Adams several times,
16 put Mr. Adams in a chokehold without any legal justification
17 resulting in bodily injury to Mr. Adams. That is alleged to be
18 a violation of federal law.

19 Do you understand that charge?

20 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

21 THE COURT: You've been over it with your lawyer?

22 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

23 THE COURT: Several times, I imagine?

24 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

25 THE COURT: And I am thinking, Mr. Jones, you probably

1 got a copy of this Information yourself already, have you not?

2 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

3 THE COURT: Okay. Do you have any questions about the
4 Information itself or what the government would have to prove
5 in order to secure a conviction on a charge like that?

6 THE DEFENDANT: No, sir.

7 THE COURT: Now, Mr. Jones, whether or not this comes
8 up by way of indictment or by way of information you still have
9 a right to a trial on the charge. Do you understand that?

10 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

11 THE COURT: Now, if you have a trial, that can be a
12 trial by jury or a trial before the Court alone. Either way,
13 there is some important rights that you have as a defendant.
14 You do have the right to a trial by jury, as I mentioned, and
15 at any trial you have the right to the presumption of
16 innocence. That means that you don't have to prove your
17 innocence or anything else at all. The government is required
18 to prove you guilty beyond any reasonable doubt by competent
19 and admissible evidence and if they cannot prove you guilty,
20 then you are, so to speak, automatically innocent.

21 You have the right to be present -- physically present
22 -- in the courtroom any time anything is going on in your case.
23 You have the right to confront and cross examine all of the
24 witnesses; that is, you have the right to see and hear the
25 witnesses testify and you have the right to ask them questions

1 through your lawyer. You have the right to subpoena witnesses
2 to the courtroom. You have the right to be a witness if you
3 want to be a witness. However, if you choose not to testify
4 for any reason or no reason at all, no one can suggest or infer
5 that you must be guilty simply on account of your choice not to
6 testify.

7 Do you understand all of those rights that I have told
8 you about?

9 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

10 THE COURT: Do you have any questions at all about
11 that?

12 THE DEFENDANT: No, sir.

13 THE COURT: Now there is another right that I mention
14 separately because it's important not only at trial but also
15 here today and that is your Fifth Amendment privilege, your
16 right to refuse or decline to answer any question if the answer
17 to that question might tend to incriminate you. Do you
18 understand that right?

19 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

20 THE COURT: Now I am told and I have a Plea Agreement
21 before me that indicates that you want to plead guilty and I
22 want you to understand that you can plead not guilty or you can
23 plead guilty. It's entirely up to you. If you plead not
24 guilty, we'll have the trial that I spoke to you about. If you
25 plead guilty, that will result in a waiver or surrender of all

1 of the rights that we discussed. If you plead guilty, you will
2 be adjudged guilty. You will be found guilty and a judgment of
3 guilty will be entered in your case.

4 If you plead guilty, you will be sentenced on your
5 guilty plea and when you are sentenced the Court, your lawyer,
6 the probation office -- all of us -- will be using to one
7 degree or another the so-called Federal Sentencing Guidelines.
8 Do you know that?

9 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

10 THE COURT: I see the Plea Agreement and I've been
11 over it. We will go over it again, but I want you to
12 understand that even at this point, Mr. Jones, you may plead
13 guilty or not guilty and that's what I will eventually be
14 asking you. Do you understand that?

15 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

16 THE COURT: Has anyone forced you, threatened you, or
17 pressured you into pleading guilty?

18 THE DEFENDANT: No, sir.

19 THE COURT: You were born in this country, weren't
20 you, Mr. Jones?

21 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

22 THE COURT: I am going to go over the Plea Agreement
23 in a summary fashion, Mr. Jones. What you have agreed to and
24 what the United States Attorney has agreed to is summarized in
25 this way: You've agreed to plead guilty to the Information --

1 count one -- that we've been over. You know and you recognize
2 and affirm that you are advised that the maximum prison term
3 for a charge like this is a term of 10 years. The maximum fine
4 is not more than \$250,000. You could be placed on supervised
5 release for as much as three years. Restitution could be
6 ordered by the court and there will be a special assessment in
7 the amount of \$100. Do you understand that?

8 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

9 THE COURT: So your obligation primarily under the
10 Plea Agreement is to plead guilty to count one of the
11 Information. I will make some findings and determinations
12 under the Sentencing Guidelines and the government lawyer has
13 agreed that if the Court determines that you qualify for a
14 credit for acceptance of responsibility, then if it's
15 applicable the government lawyer will move for an additional
16 one-level reduction in the offense level.

17 The government lawyer has also agreed to recommend
18 that you be sentenced at the low end of the guideline range.
19 You've agreed to pay restitution for the full loss caused by
20 your criminal conduct. You've agreed to provide full,
21 complete, candid, and truthful cooperation to the government,
22 meaning the U.S. Attorney and the agents involved, and in the
23 sole discretion of the United States Attorney they will decide
24 whether that cooperation qualifies as substantial assistance
25 which might warrant the filing of a motion for downward

1 departure or reduction in sentence.

2 You've agreed to waive the right to appeal in this
3 case on any ground. There are some exceptions: One, if the
4 sentence imposed went above the statutory maximum. Another is
5 if the sentence imposed exceeded the guideline range as
6 determined by the Court at the time of sentencing or if the
7 government appealed.

8 There is another waiver and that is a waiver of any
9 right to collaterally attack or file a habeas corpus proceeding
10 with respect to the sentence or the proceedings or the guilty
11 plea. The only exception there is if you somehow came up with
12 a habeas corpus claim of ineffective assistance of counsel.

13 You've also agreed to waive and give up any right to
14 request information about the case under the Freedom of
15 Information Act or any other federal act and you've agreed to
16 waive any protection of federal rules so that if you were later
17 allowed to withdraw your guilty plea or if you failed to go
18 through the guilty plea any statements made by you in
19 connection with the plea and any leads derived therefrom are,
20 nevertheless, admissible for any and all purposes.

21 Now, that's a summary, albeit inartful, of the Plea
22 Agreement.

23 Ms. Scanlon have missed anything?

24 MRS. SCANLON: No, Your Honor.

25 THE COURT: What about it, Mr. Shaefer?

1 MR. SHAEFER: No, Your Honor.

2 THE COURT: Well, more importantly, Mr. Jones, you're
3 the man who is involved here. Do you understand my summary of
4 the Plea Agreement?

5 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

6 THE COURT: Is that what you agreed to?

7 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

8 THE COURT: And did I miss anything?

9 THE DEFENDANT: No, sir.

10 THE COURT: Well, there's probably a lot more on 10
11 pages, but that's the essence of the Plea Agreement. Are you
12 comfortable with that, Mr. Jones?

13 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

14 THE COURT: Any questions about your Plea Agreement?

15 THE DEFENDANT: No, sir.

16 THE COURT: Has anyone given you any prediction or
17 prophecy or promise with respect to what sentence would be
18 imposed in your case?

19 THE DEFENDANT: No, sir.

20 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Shaefer, why don't you and
21 your client have a seat for a moment and we will get a factual
22 basis for the plea.

23 MR. SHAEFER: Yes, sir.

24 THE COURT: All right. Mrs. Scanlon, you have the
25 floor.

(Farrah Rajabi-Direct by Mrs. Scanlon)

15

1 MRS. SCANLON: The United States calls FBI Agent
2 Farrah Rajabi.

3 Your Honor, may I approach the lectern?

4 THE COURT: Certainly.

5 (Farrah Rajabi is duly sworn.)

6 THE CLERK: Please state your name and occupation for
7 the record.

8 THE WITNESS: My name is Farrah Rajabi. It's
9 R-A-J-A-B-I and I am an FBI agent.

10 **DIRECT EXAMINATION**

11 BY MRS. SCANLON:

12 Q What are your duties as an FBI agent?

13 A I investigate violations of criminal federal law --
14 anything ranging from bankruptcy fraud to crimes against
15 children to civil rights violations.

16 Q Were you assigned to investigate an incident that occurred
17 at the Charles B. Webster Detention Center on May 7 of 2022?

18 A Yes.

19 Q Did you collect body camera footage of that incident?

20 A Yes, I did.

21 Q Did you review the footage?

22 A I did.

23 Q Did you conduct interviews?

24 A Yes.

25 Q Throughout the course of your investigation did you come

(Farrah Rajabi-Direct by Mrs. Scanlon)

16

1 across someone involved in that incident by the name of
2 Dantavion Jones?

3 A Yes, I did.

4 Q Was he employed at the time?

5 A Yes, with Richmond County Sheriff's Office.

6 Q And what did he do for the Richmond County Sheriff's
7 Office?

8 A He was a road deputy assigned to the Crime Suppression
9 Team.

10 Q Was Deputy Jones a sworn law enforcement officer?

11 A Yes.

12 Q Was he on duty on May 7 of 2022?

13 A Yes, he was.

14 Q How do you know that?

15 A In reviewing the body camera video other individuals who
16 are present identified him and I also spoke with Mr. Jones
17 several weeks ago and he identified himself in the video as
18 well.

19 Q Did you observe him -- you indicated that you observed him
20 in the footage. What did you see as -- well, let me back up.
21 How did May 7, 2022 -- how did Mr. Jones get involved in that?
22 What occurred?

23 A Some inmates in the "G" pod at the Charles B. Webster
24 Detention Center flooded the pod by breaking the sprinkler
25 heads and one of the lieutenants at the jail called it out over

(Farrah Rajabi-Direct by Mrs. Scanlon)

17

1 the radio as a riot and asked for assistance from road
2 deputies. Several -- a group of deputies from the road
3 responded to the jail and there was body camera video of that
4 response.

5 Q What did you observe Deputy Jones do in the body cam
6 footage?

7 A The video shows a group of officers arrive outside of the
8 pod and before they go in one of the officers says to put all
9 of the inmates in the water on their face. Deputy Jones went
10 in to the pod, went upstairs, assisted with handcuffing some of
11 the inmates -- or an inmate. They escorted the inmates
12 downstairs and one of the inmates was placed in the water face
13 down and another -- Mr. Jones and the inmate exchanged some
14 words about -- to the effect of "If the cuffs weren't on me" --
15 the inmate stated, "If the cuffs were not on me you wouldn't be
16 doing this," and another officer overheard that and shouted,
17 "He wants his cuffs off," referring to the inmate -- Mr. Adams.
18 Yet another officer, a female, said about Mr. Adams, "He wants
19 to fight." And then that officer attempted to remove
20 Mr. Adams' cuffs. She was unsuccessful and Mr. Jones stepped
21 in and uncuffed Mr. Adams which allowed yet another deputy to
22 come over and punch the inmate repeatedly and place him in a
23 chokehold.

24 Q Did those events take place in the Southern District of
25 Georgia?

(Farrah Rajabi-Direct by Mrs. Scanlon)

18

1 A Yes, they did.

2 Q Okay. Did the actions or the inactions of Deputy Jones
3 deprive the victim of the right that is secured and protected
4 by the Constitution and the laws of the United States to be
5 free from the use of unreasonable force from a law enforcement
6 officer?

7 A Yes.

8 Q Based on the investigation did Mr. Jones willfully exceed,
9 misuse or abuse his authority under the law?

10 A Yes.

11 Q In what way?

12 A He allowed an inmate who was secure and in cuffs to be
13 uncuffed and created a volatile situation whereby the inmate
14 was then abused and placed in a chokehold, punched by another
15 inmate and Mr. Jones ---

16 THE COURT: By another inmate?

17 THE WITNESS: Excuse me. By another deputy. And
18 Mr. Jones failed to intervene.

19 MRS. SCANLON: I have no further questions of
20 Ms. Rajabi.

21 THE COURT: And you -- wait a minute. Sit tight just
22 a minute. I've got to let Mr. Shaefer ask you some questions
23 and I have one that I'll go ahead and ask. You're telling me
24 that the video footage indicates that Mr. Jones over here was
25 involved in the removal of the restraints of the inmate?

(Farrah Rajabi-Cross by Mr. Shaefer)

19

1 THE WITNESS: Correct.

2 THE COURT: Okay. All right.

3 Mr. Shaefer, any questions for the FBI agent?

4 MR. SHAEFER: Just a couple for clarification.

5 THE COURT: Sure.

6 **CROSS EXAMINATION**

7 BY MR. SHAEFER:

8 Q Just to be clear, Mr. Jones was not observed striking the
9 inmate?

10 A Correct. Mr. Jones removed the cuffs from the inmate.

11 Q And then the ---

12 A The striking occurred after.

13 Q Correct. And then the basis for the charge that we're here
14 for today is his inaction. Is that a fair assessment?

15 A That's a fair assessment.

16 Q That's all. Thank you.

17 THE COURT: Okay. Well, thank you, Ms. Rajabi. You
18 may stand down, if you'd like.

19 All right. Mr. Shaefer, please bring your client,
20 Mr. Jones, back to the lectern.

21 Mr. Jones, did you hear what Special Agent Rajabi
22 said?

23 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

24 THE COURT: What did she say that you disagree with?

25 THE DEFENDANT: It could have been more clarity on the

1 actual removal of the handcuffs and situation.

2 THE COURT: Do you want to clarify it for me?

3 THE DEFENDANT: Yes. Yes, sir.

4 THE COURT: You are under oath. Please go ahead and
5 do so.

6 THE DEFENDANT: So when me and Mr. Adams exchanged
7 words, I said -- we exchanged words and I started to walk away,
8 and then the deputy who stated "remove the handcuffs" was a
9 supervisor stating "remove the handcuffs". Not thinking that
10 anything was going to happen, I removed the handcuffs based off
11 what the supervisor had just stated for me to -- not for me to
12 do, but -- the supervisor stated to remove the handcuffs and I
13 was following what the supervisor stated.

14 Unfortunately, when that occurred another deputy
15 assaulted Mr. Adams. That we can all agree on. I'm trying to
16 think of the words to put it -- the way to put it. Had I known
17 that that was going to occur, actions would have been
18 different. I was in a jail. Everybody in that jail had body
19 cameras on and that jail has video footage. There is cameras
20 in the jail. So never would I have thought that someone would
21 just assault an inmate at the jail on camera where you're gonna
22 get in trouble.

23 So I didn't know that it was going to happen, but,
24 unfortunately, it happened, but, like I said, I only -- I
25 removed handcuffs based off of supervision saying they wanted

1 handcuffs to be removed. I understand that on video there is a
2 female deputy yelling "he wants to fight," but that female
3 deputy had been yelling since we walked in the jail. The
4 deputy that assaulted the inmate had been yelling since we
5 walked in the jail. There was a lot of inmates were yelling.

6 Water was falling. I wasn't -- I wasn't keen on, hey,
7 this is what's about to happen. I had no clue it was about to
8 happen. Never did I imagine something that would happen in the
9 jail. I worked in the jail for a year. I did two years of
10 corrections. I didn't -- I didn't think anybody would do
11 anything like that.

12 THE COURT: Like what?

13 THE DEFENDANT: Like assault an inmate that we're in
14 charge of taking care of.

15 THE COURT: Mr. Jones, you're not being charged with
16 inappropriately removing the restraints. That is just a factor
17 involved. You're charged with failure to do anything to stop
18 these people from punching and choke-holding this Inmate Adams.
19 Do you understand that?

20 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

21 THE COURT: And you've told me that you were
22 instructed by a supervisor -- someone superior to you -- to
23 remove the restraints?

24 THE DEFENDANT: The instruction wasn't directly at me,
25 but he did say "take the handcuffs off".

1 THE COURT: I am getting to the point of -- and it
2 happens all the time, Mr. Jones, but you got to remember you're
3 under oath. It happens all the time that people are very
4 reluctant to come clean, if you will, when you got family
5 members in the courtroom. You get my drift?

6 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

7 THE COURT: All right. Now what you're telling me
8 makes it sound like you were just a bystander and you didn't do
9 anything and you didn't -- you just took the cuffs off because
10 you were instructed to do so -- you and the rest of the
11 crowd -- and that thereafter you had no idea that anybody would
12 start punching anybody or violating the rights of an inmate.
13 Is that what you're trying to tell me?

14 THE DEFENDANT: As far as the inmate being assaulted,
15 yes. Now I could have stopped the incident and that's
16 something that me and my attorney have discussed. That's
17 something that I discussed with the U.S. Attorneys that, you
18 know, I had an opportunity to stop it and I didn't.

19 THE COURT: Okay. Now we're getting back on the
20 surface of the road here. You were about to get in the ditch
21 there. You can't plead guilty if you don't -- if you say you
22 didn't do anything wrong. Do you understand that?

23 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

24 THE COURT: Did you, Mr. Jones, have an opportunity to
25 bring or at least try to stop the other officers from being on

1 Adams?

2 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

3 THE COURT: Did you do anything to try to stop them?

4 THE DEFENDANT: No, sir.

5 THE COURT: As a sworn law enforcement officer you
6 knew then as you know now that you had an obligation to protect
7 an inmate under those circumstances, did you not?

8 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

9 THE COURT: Anything else you want to say?

10 THE DEFENDANT: No, sir.

11 THE COURT: Okay. Now having thought about it and
12 talked about it, Mr. Jones, how do you want to resolve this
13 case?

14 THE DEFENDANT: I'm going to enter my plea.

15 THE COURT: And by that you mean you want to plead
16 guilty consistent with the terms of your Plea Agreement?

17 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

18 THE COURT: Are you, in fact, guilty as charged?

19 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

20 THE COURT: In that this defendant has acknowledged
21 his guilt, he's aware of his right to trial, he knows the
22 maximum penalty, and with full knowledge of the consequences on
23 an ample factual basis he has elected to plead guilty, I will
24 allow the plea to be entered in writing.

25 THE CLERK: Your Honor, the guilty plea has been

1 entered.

2 THE COURT: Let it be filed.

3 Mr. Jones, you've now been convicted of this federal
4 felony offense. You have no right to own, use or possess a
5 firearm at any time. Do you have any firearms at home?

6 THE DEFENDANT: No, sir.

7 THE COURT: Or anywhere else?

8 THE DEFENDANT: We got rid of them.

9 THE COURT: Mr. Brown and the probation office were
10 good enough to provide a pretty good report on your conduct
11 since you were put on bond and I will allow you to remain on
12 bond under the same conditions as before.

13 THE CLERK: He has not been put on bond before.

14 THE COURT: Oh, I'm sorry. Thank you. So he is -- I
15 have the report and there's no reason not to allow him on bond
16 with the conditions that are recommended here.

17 Mr. Shaefer, I will allow this to be an unsecured
18 bond, albeit in the amount of \$10,000. The conditions will be
19 announced in the documents and I will adopt those that
20 Mr. Brownlee has recommended.

21 Some of these are obvious, but all of them are
22 important, Mr. Jones. Listen carefully and they will be
23 articulated in other documents that you'll have to sign. You
24 are to report as directed by the supervising officer. You are
25 to maintain your current employment. You are not to attempt to

1 obtain a Passport. I understand you don't have one now. Is
2 that right?

3 THE DEFENDANT: No, sir.

4 THE COURT: Okay. You are to abide by any
5 restrictions on personal association, place of abode or travel
6 that might be imposed by the probation office and your travel
7 is restricted to the Southern District of Georgia. If you need
8 to travel beyond the Southern District for employment or other
9 purposes, you'll have to let the probation officer know. By
10 all means you should ---

11 MR. SHAEFER: Your Honor, he's informed me that
12 occasionally his work does take him into South Carolina.

13 THE COURT: Well, all you have to do is talk to the
14 probation officer about that.

15 Do you know if Mr. Brownlee is in the building,
16 Mr. Brown?

17 THE PROBATION OFFICER: I believe he left for the day,
18 Your Honor.

19 THE COURT: All right. Well, if it's
20 employment-related I will tell you there will be no objection
21 to it, but I want you to get with him right away and we'll get
22 it memorialized.

23 MR. SHAEFER: Your Honor, I believe we're working on
24 scheduling a meeting on Monday. That has not been solidified
25 yet.

1 THE COURT: Okay. That's good enough. Okay.

2 You are not to contact or be in contact with any
3 potential witness, victim or co-defendant in this
4 investigation. Do you understand that?

5 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

6 THE COURT: Anybody that has anything to do with this
7 matter, you just stay away from them. Obviously, you cannot
8 possess a firearm. Refrain from the excessive use of alcohol
9 and I'm placing you on a curfew from 10 p.m. until 6 a.m.
10 10 p.m. until 6 a.m.

11 MR. SHAEFER: Your Honor, he's informed me that he
12 sometimes has to leave the house around five to make it to work
13 on time at 7 a.m.

14 THE COURT: If it is employment related and I mean
15 genuinely so, that's okay. Any time you're working or getting
16 back and to work, that will be fine. But no funny stuff.
17 Understand me?

18 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

19 THE COURT: Okay. If you are arrested, questioned or
20 stopped -- even a traffic stop -- by any law enforcement
21 officer, you are to report that as soon as practicable to our
22 probation office.

23 Those are generally the terms of the bond and y'all
24 will prepare those documents today, Morgan?

25 THE CLERK: Yes, sir.

1 THE COURT: Okay. Any questions, Mr. Jones?

2 THE DEFENDANT: No, sir.

3 THE COURT: All right. Well, that concludes the
4 matter. You must, of course, stay in touch with your lawyer
5 and abide by those conditions. That concludes the matter.
6 We're in recess.

7 (End of Transcript of Record.)

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1 CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER
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5 I, Lisa H. Davenport, Federal Official Reporter, in and
6 for the United States District Court for the Southern District
7 of Georgia, do hereby certify that pursuant to Section 753,
8 Title 28, United States Code that the foregoing is a true and
9 correct transcript of the stenographically-reported proceedings
10 held and that the transcript page format is in conformance with
11 the regulations of the Judicial Conference of the United
12 States.

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15 Lisa H Davenport, RPR, FCRR
16 Federal Official Reporter
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